



PATENT

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

(Case No. MBHB00-873-I (500.011))

IN THE APPLICATION OF:)
)
Thompson et al.)
)
Serial No. 10/715,285) Examiner: Zara, Jane J
)
Filed: November 17, 2003) Group Art Unit: 1635
)
Title Chemically Modified Double) Confirmation No.: 5200
Stranded Nucleic Acid Molecules)

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

MAILED APRIL 14, 2006

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This paper is filed in response to the office action mailed on April 14, 2006 in the above-mentioned application. A Petition for a one (1) month extension of time and fee are included herewith. Accordingly a response is timely filed on or before August 14, 2006. No additional fees are thought to be presently due at this time; however, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any additional fees required in connection with the paper(s) transmitted herewith, or to credit any overpayment of same, to Deposit Account No. 13-2490.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 4 of this paper.

Conclusion is on page 6 of this paper.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 CFR § 1.10

The undersigned hereby certifies that this Transmittal Letter and the paper, as described in paragraph 1, are being deposited with the United States Postal Service under Express Mail Label No. EV839383529US in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on July 31, 2006.

Anita J. Terpstra, Ph.D.